

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Costa Rica

**Post:** San Jose

### Changes to registration requirements for processed meat

**Report Categories:**

FAIRS Subject Report

Livestock and Products

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**Report Highlights:**

Costa Rica now accepts FSIS Form 9060-5 instead of the Certificate of Free Sale for registration of processed meat products, which reduces one step in the product registration process.

**General Information:****Costa Rica reduces paperwork requirements for processed meat imports**

Costa Rica's Ministry of Health approved the use of FSIS form 9060-5, "Export Certificate of Wholesomeness", as equivalent to the Certificate of Free Sale for the registration of processed meat products. By law, the "Export Certificate of Wholesomeness" accompanies every exported shipment of processed meat. However, Costa Rica requires a "Certificate of Free Sale" for the registration of food products with the Ministry of Health. U.S. exporters of processed meat products sometimes experience difficulties obtaining a Free Sale Certificate for their products. With this procedural change, exporters of processed meats products will be able to use FSIS form 9060-5 issued for their products instead of the Free Sale Certificate. The name of the product to be registered must be clearly identified in the 9060-5 form. All other registration requirements remain the same.

The registration process, which has to be done prior to exporting food products to Costa Rica, is considered by importers as slow and generally cumbersome and involves several documents that the exporter has to provide to the importer. A detailed explanation of the process is included in Costa Rica's [Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards Report \(FAIRS\)](#).